

I am against further consolidation of media ownership. I believe there should be finite restrictions on the number of radio and television stations owned by one entity or conglomerate. I believe these parameters should be rolled back to the pre-1997 limits.

I am seriously concerned about the erosion of Americans' access to a variety of media perspectives and local grass-roots points of view. I object to the gradual homogenization of the musical product being aired over the airwaves in our country. I hear less variety and I see reduced opportunities for new music and new perspectives and points of views to emerge and thrive. Art seriously suffers when you control the product too much with the same broadbrush mentality.

Singularized ownership of a network of stations makes it far too easy for one point of view (corporate and/or even government vis a vis their connections in a particularly corporation) to control the news and musical content they want broadcast. By the opposite token, this power also determines what the American public is not being allowed to find out about, know intimately and discuss among themselves.

In my opinion media consolidation makes it very easy to formalize and implement models of user friendly censorship by a paternalistic government. Censorship, as we were all taught in school, reeks of mind control. Mind control, applied to a populace over generations, dissolves a human being's will and spirit to create and sustain a democratic way of life with other human beings, both individually and collectively. Its 1984-stupid!

The proposed further deregulations of our media bodes dangerous for America. It is very bad for our image and role as leaders of the free world. Let's stop this nonsense right now and put the toothpaste back into the tube by returning to careful regulation.